



Department of State

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TELEGRAM

21 AUG 1970

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SECRET 441

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ACTION SS-45

INFO: OCT-01 1046 W

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211012Z AUG 70
 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6841
 SECDEF
 INFO CINCPACREPHIL
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S. SEC RET MANILA 7793

CABLE SECRETARIAT ROUTING: EXDIS,
 BACKGROUND USE ONLY: FILE CS/RF,
 DCI (orig), D/DCI, DDP, SDP, D/OCI,
 D/ONE, C/ FE, EXDIR,
NIPE, AROO, 3GL, QCA

25X1A

EXDIS

SUBJECT: GAO INQUIRY "UPDATING" SYMINGTON HEARINGS

REF1 MANILA 7792

EXCLUSIVE FOR ADMIRAL McCAIN, GENERAL MCNICKLE, ADMIRAL MUSE

1. I HAVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON REFTEL. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE METHOD OF OPERATION DESCRIBED REFTEL ARE SUCH THAT AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE AT A FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL TO CLARIFY BOTH THE SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THIS EXERCISE. IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE BASES ARE BEING ASKED FOR OPINIONS AND FACTS ON VARIED MAJOR POLITICAL AND MILITARY POLICIES WHEN IT IS QUITE INAPPROPRIATE THAT ANSWERS BE SOUGHT TO SUCH QUESTIONS AT THE OPERATING LEVEL OF THE BASES. INDEED, MANY OF THESE COVER MATTERS WHICH CAN BEST BE ANSWERED IN WASHINGTON. FURTHERMORE, IT SMACKS OF ANOTHER PINCUS-PAULI TYPE OPERATION IN THAT JUNIOR GAO OFFICIALS, OBVIOUSLY WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT MATTER, ARE TRYING TO DIG INTO MAJOR POLITICAL, MILITARY, ECONOMIC, AND INTERNAL MATTERS FAR BEYOND THEIR ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND ANALYZE. IT WOULD SEEM IN FACT THAT GAO IS BECOMING A PRACTICE AROUND THE WORLD, THE SIZE DRAMATICALLY EXPANDING AND CHANGING ITS OWN ROLES AND FUNCTIONS.



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2. I HAVE TOLD THE BASES NOT TO PROVIDE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION (OTHER THAN CURRENT STATISTICAL DATA) TO LOCAL GAO OFFICE PENDING RECEIPT OF INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDANCE FROM WASHINGTON IN RESPONSE TO THIS TELEGRAM. GP-2
BYROADE